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POL 23-8 UR

Department of State TELEGRAM

DECLASSIFIED XR PER A.I.D.

UNCLASSIFIED 563

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 PM-05 NSC-10 SS-20 RSC-01 H-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 P-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 AID-28 SSO-00
RSR-01 /111 W

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY 013202 DATE 4-22-83
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED☐ RELEASABLE☐
RELEASE DENIED☐
PA or FOIA EXEMPTION

R 122109Z AUG 70
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1053

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 3044

AT A REQUIEM MASS SPONSORED BY AMBASSADOR HODGE TUESDAY FOR DAN MITRIONE THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY SACRAMENT WAS FILLED BY SYMPATHIZERS FROM EMBASSY AND PUBLIC. PAPAL NUNCIO'S REPRESENTATIVE, URUGUAYAN AMBASSADOR LACARTE MURO, AND OTHER DIGNITARIES ATTENDED.

SERVICE WIDELY COVERED PRESS AND TELEVISION. STATEMENT AFTERWARD BY AMBASSADOR SAID IN PART:

QUOTE -- DAN MITRIONE DIED IN THE LINE OF DUTY. HE MADE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE JUST AS OUR MEN IN VIETNAM HAVE DONE AND ARE DOING. HIS SUDDEN DEPARTURE FROM OUR MIDST REMINDS US THAT OUR ENEMIES ARE RELENTLESS, THAT THEY ARE RESOURCEFUL, AND THAT THEIR WEAPONS SYSTEMS IN THIS HISTORIC WORLD STRUGGLE INCLUDE TERRORISM AND MURDER. THIS FOUL AND COWARDLY DEED WAS NOT JUST A SORDID BRUTAL INDISCRIMINATE ACT OF DISEASED MINDS; IT CONSTITUTES A BLOW AGAINST LAW AND ORDER, A BLOW AGAINST FREEDOM AND AN ATTEMPT TO INFLICT THE NIGHTMARE OF A RUTHLESS TYRANNY ON INNOCENT FREEDOM-LOVING PEOPLE.

QUOTE -- DAN MITRIONE'S DEATH IS A MONSTROUS TRAGEDY. IT IS DREADFULLY TRAGIC FOR HIS WIDOW AND FOR HIS NINE CHILDREN. OUR HEARTS GO OUT TO THEM IN THIS MOMENT OF TERRIBLE GRIEF, A GRIEF WHICH WE SHARE. FOR US, THE LIVING, THIS TRAGEDY MUST SERVE AS A TOUCHSTONE FOR INSPIRATION. WHILE WE LAMENT THE UNTIMELY AND COSTLY DEATH OF DAN MITRIONE, WE MUST ALSO RE-DEDICATE OURSELVES TO THE TIMELESS TENETS OF

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Buenos Aires 3044 8/12/70

FREEDOM AND INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY ON WHICH OUR NATION WAS FOUNDED...

QUOTE -- AT THIS TIME I ASK YOU ALL TO PRAY TO GOD FOR THE SAFE RELEASE OF THE BRAZILIAN CONSUL DIAS GOMIDE AND CLAUDE L. FLY.

QUOTE -- DAN MITRIONE DID NOT DIE IN VAIN. HE DIED IN A CAUSE WHICH FOR MANY GENERATIONS HAS INSPIRED PEOPLE OF IDEALISM AND HONOR THE WORLD OVER. UNQUOTE.

MANY PEOPLE SIGNING CONDOLENCE BOOKS AT EMBASSY AND RESIDENCE.
LODGE